The reasons for pendency of balance claims for Khanna, Sirhind, Doraha and Rajdhani Express Accidents are:—

(i) Non-attendance by the applicants or their counsels.

(ii) Inability of litigants to produce documents and witness on time.

**Vacant posts in Nagpur Railway Division**

1460. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of posts of gangmen, gatemen, loco running and traffic running staff are vacant in Nagpur Railway Division of Central Railway and it is affecting day to day work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways proposes to fill up these vacant posts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Occurrence and filling up of vacancies being a continuous process, a few vacancies are bound to exist at any given point of time, but it is not affecting the day to day work.

(b) There are 300 vacancies of Gangmen, 27 vacancies of Gatemen, 199 vacancies of Loco Running and 124 vacancies of Traffic Running Staff in Nagpur Division as against the sanctioned strength of 3766, 573, 1462 and 529 respectively. The sanctioned strength includes not only the bare requirement for operation, but also Rest Givers and Leave Reserves. In case of running categories, these provisions have been liberally made and they can take care of the vacancies, temporarily when there are time gaps between arising of vacancies and filling up of the same.

(c) and (d) The vacancies in these categories are proposed to be filled by various methods including direct recruitment through

Railway Recruitment Boards for which indents have been placed, appointments on compassionate grounds, redeployment of surplus staff by suitable retraining and promotion.

(e) Does not airse.

**Recommendations of Enquiry Commission**

1461. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) number of accidents took place in last three years (zone-wise);

(b) number of Enquiry Commissions constituted so far;

(c) what are the main recommendations and findings thereof; and

(d) what action the Government has taken so far on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Number of accidents took place in the last three years, zone-wise is as under:-

| Railway | Number of Accidents | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 | 2002-2003* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Central | 58 | 50 | 32 |
| Eastern | 35 | 47 | 37 |
| Northern | 66 | 79 | 69 |
| North Eastern | 37 | 37 | 35 |
| Northeast Frontier | 95 | 58 | 38 |
| Southern | 43 | 35 | 26 |
| South Central | 48 | 36 | 42 |
| South Eastern | 53 | 50 | 30 |
| Western | 29 | 21 | 21 |